

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LISBON 03319 051701Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

OMB-01 SAM-01 IO-14 SCI-06 AEC-11 AECE-00 DRC-01 AF-10

/150 W

----- 101461

O R 051443Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0188

INFO AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

CINCLANT

COMUSFORAZ

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 3319

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, PO, US

SUBJ: EXPRESSO ARTICLE ON LAJES BASE NEGOTIATIONS

SUMMARY: ARTICLE IN RESPECTED WEEKLY EXPRESSO GIVES SEEMINGLY AUTHORITATIVE ACCOUNT OF GOP NEGOTIATING STANCE VIS-A-VIS USG IN UPCOMING LAJES BASE RENEGOTIATIONS, AND TOUCHES ON A NUMBER OF BENEFITS GOP EXPECTS OUT OF RENEWAL OF EXISTING ACCORDS. END SUMMARY.

1. WEEKLY EXPRESSO PUBLISHED FRONT PAGE ARTICLE IN AUGUST 3 EDITION TITLED "GOP SEEKS NEW CONDITIONS IN LAJES NEGOTIATIONS." WE SUSPECT INFORMATION IN ARTICLE REGARDING PORTUGUESE NEGOTIATING POSITION COMES FROM AUTHORITATIVE, HIGH LEVEL SOURCE IN GOP, WHICH MAY HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LISBON 03319 051701Z

LEAKED DATA TO EXPRESSO IN EXPECTATION IT WOULD REACH USG.

2. ARTICLE STATES THAT AMB. THEMIDO WILL MAKE KNOWN AUGUST 3 GOP INTEREST IN MAINTAINING GOP-USG AGREEMENT REGARDING AZORES BASE. THIS STATEMENT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH GOP WILL SEEK NOT TO ALTER FUNDAMENTALS OF EXISTING AGREEMENT, BUT RATHER TO OBTAIN MORE ADVANTAGES FROM USG IN RETURN FOR BASE RIGHTS. PORTUGAL WILL TRY TO OBTAIN A HIGHER INCOME AND/OR CONCRETE AID IN FORM OF MATERIEL, SUBSIDIES, ETC. ARTICLE SAYS IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT AMERICAN LOANS UNDER SPECIAL CONDITIONS WILL BE SOUGHT.

3. NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH WILL BE INITIATED FORMALLY BY AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES, WILL BE CONDUCTED BY A DELEGATION OF PORTUGUESE TECHNICIANS LED BY AMB. THEMIDO. MEANWHILE AN INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF REPS OF MINISTRIES OF DEFENSE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FINANCES, AND ECONOMY WILL ALSO MEET IN LISBON "IN VIRTUE OF THE DIVERSE ASPECTS COVERED BY THE LAJES PROBLEM,"

4. PORTUGUESE SIDE, SAYS ARTICLE, SHOWS ITS CLEAR WILLINGNESS TO REACH SOLUTIONS RAPIDLY "IN ORDER TO CREATE NEW CONDITIONS, AND MORE FAVORABLE ONES, REGARDING US UTILIZATION OF THE LAJES FACILITIES." ANOTHER DESIRE OF GOP IS FOR CONCRETE ADVANTAGES TO ACCRUE TO INHABITANTS OF AZORES "FROM THESE NEW CONDITONS." SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IS UTILIZATION OF VOLCANIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ISLANDS FOR PRODUCTION OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY.

5. "THE NEGOTIATION OF NEW ADVANTAGES FOR PORTUGAL FROM THE GRANITNG OF THE LAJES BASE WILL ALSO CONSTITUTE AN EXCELLENT PRETEXT FOR A STUDY AND GENERAL REVISION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES," PREDICTS EXPRESSO.

6. THE US SIDE, IN SPITE OF THE INTERNAL CRISIS PROVOKED BY WATERGATE, "APPEARS RATHER RECEPTIVE TO THE REQUESTS PORTUGAL IS GOING TO PRESENT," AND RECOGNIZES THE STRATEGIC VALUE OF THE BASE. THE STRATEGIC VALUE OF THE BASE TO THE US NAVY APPEARS TO BE INCREASING.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LISBON 03319 051701Z

7. EXPRESSO GOES ON TO SAY THAT IT IS LOGICAL TO PRESUME THAT THE USG IS INTERESTED IN COLLABORATING IN THE ECONOMIC STABILITY OF PORTUGAL SINCE UPON THIS IN GREAT PART DEPENDS THE POLITICAL STABILITY SOUGHT BY THE USG.

8. CRUCIAL ROLE OF SENATE IN LAJES BASE NEGOTIATIONS TOUCHED UPON IN CONCLUDING PORTION OF ARTICLE. IT IS

POINTED OUT THAT SENATE NOW CLAIMING ITS RIGHT TO RATIFY
AGREEMENTS REACHED BY EXECUTIVE, AND THAT IT HAS IN MIND
LAJES AND BAHRAIN AGREEMENTS. THE USG, POINTS OUT
EXPRESSO, MAINTAINS THAT SINCE AZORES ACCORD IS AN
EXECUTIVE AGREEMENT AND CONCERNS MILITARY SUBJECTS,
SENATE APPROVAL NOT NECESSARY. EXPRESSO MAKES NO
PREDICTION AS TO WHAT ACTION SENATE WILL TAKE ON AZORES,
BUT NOTES IT MAY TAKE A DIFFERENT ATTITUDE.
POST

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, REFUELING, NEGOTIATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, LAJES, CONTRACTS, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LISBON03319
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740213-0301
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740874/aaaacup.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <24 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXPRESSO ARTICLE ON LAJES BASE NEGOTIATIONS SUMMARY: ARTICLE IN RESPECTED WEEKLY EXPRESSO GIVES
TAGS: MARR, PO, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005